








A Historical Look at Montana's Oral Health Program








Treasure State Health: Official Bulletin—State Board of Health G.D. Caryle Thompson, M.D. Executive Officer

April 1954

The Dental Advisory Committee of the MT Dental Association outlined a proposed \$33,500 dental health program to the State Board of Health at the Board's March 7 meeting in Helena. This is an increase of \$18,750 to allow the employment of a field dentist and a dental hygienist and includes efforts to:

-  Encourage fluoridation of public water systems
-  Make DMG (decay-missing-filled) surveys
-  Dental hygienist to aid in developing an educational program for the state
-  Conduct dental health demonstrations
-  Provide dental services for children at state institutions
-  Prepare and make available dental health educational materials
-  Dental lectures postgraduate courses for dentists

March 1955: Seven New Dental Health Movies Added to Library for Free Loan

-  Your Child's First Visit to the Dentist
-  Swab Your Choppers
-  Teeth Are to Keep
-  Winky the Watchman
-  Save those Teeth
-  Come Clean
-  Dental Health: How & Why

July 1955: Fluoridation Authority Speaks: MT Public Health Association Hears of Advantages & Safety

August 1955: Safety, Effectives of Fluoridation In Reducing Dental Decay Demonstrated

June 1956: MSDA Reaffirms Its Endorsement of Fluoridation

September 1963: Ravalli County Volunteers Complete Dental Health Project

October 1963: A Career In Public Dentistry

April 1964: Benefits of Fluoridation in Bozeman

April 1964: Dental Decay Reduced 60% in Roundup Fluoridation Program




December 1964: 1908 and 1963 Dental Health Surveys Made in Helena

April 1965: Dental Health Highlights and Needs

Oral Health Program Funding





HRSA/Children's Oral Healthcare Access Program:

9/30/2003 through 8/21/2007: Years 1, 2 & 3: \$50,000.00/year and Years 4 & 5: \$65,000.00/year

-  **Goal 1:** Develop a state oral health plan
-  **Goal 2:** Coordinate assessment of oral health status of MT 3rd graders and establish baseline data for Head Start Children
-  **Goal 3:** Promote and coordinate early intervention strategies to prevent dental disease and improve access to dental services for Medicaid/CHIP children








HRSA: Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities:

9/1/2010 to 8/31/2013: \$200,000.00/year

-  **Goal 1:** Fund a .25 Oral Health Program Coordinator
-  **Goal 2:** Expand dental recruitment and retention
-  **Goal 3:** Expand educational programs to promote oral health professions
-  **Goal 4:** Assessment of the oral health status and needs of Montanans





HRSA: Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities:

9/1/2013 to 8/31/2016: \$500,000.00/year

-  **Goal 1:** Develop capacity for dental student rotations and place UWSOD in rural/underserved sites in MT—34 students
-  **Goal 2:** Develop a financial model for sustainability of dental education in MT
-  **Goal 3:** Collaborate to develop inter-professional experiences & provide OH training to non-dental health professionals
-  **Goal 4:** Decrease the number of communities that lack a dentist and dental hygienist—9 providers were recruited (7 dentists and 2 dental hygienists) and 6 retained.
-  **Goal 5:** Increase the number of children who have access to oral health services in underserved communities
-  **Goal 6:** Develop and “grow our own” dentists, dental hygienists and oral health workforce from rural and underserved areas of MT—7045 MT students were exposed to dental careers
-  **Goal 7:** Hire a fulltime dental health professional to fill the position as the MT Oral Health Program Coordinator

HRSA: Grants to States to Support Oral Health Workforce Activities:

9/1/2016 to 8/31/2018: \$250,000.00/year: \$250,000/year

-  **Goal 1:** Diversify the oral health workforce to promote prevention
-  **Goal 2:** Increase the capacity of community-based preventive care among high-risk, high-need populations by offering support to 2-3 projects to expand existing or develop new sustainable programs
-  **Goal 3:** Maintain the current OHP capacity while continuing to improve coordination of state oral health activities and surveillance
-  **Goal 4:** Increase the capacity for sustainable dental education in MT, including student rotations and other related infrastructure